The Mint Master

December 2009 Volume 55, Issue 12

Newsletter of the Utah Numismatic Society

Page 1



This Month's Program:

"Christmas Dinner"

Highlights

Coin of the Month	2
Buy of the Month	3
Prizes this Month	3
Book Review	3
Quiz & Trivia	4
Young Numismatists	4
Counterfeit Corner	5
Feature Article	6
Advertisers	7
Advertisers	8
Membership Form	9

Presidents Message

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone had a very Happy Thanksgiving. Personally, I certainly have a lot to be thankful for. For one, I'm thankful & glad to be a member of the UNS club. I look forward to each and every meeting, especially as we enter the cooler months of the year. I would also like to thank those who have participated in club meetings, assisting with newsletters, helped set-up or take-down coin shows and a whole host of other contributions made throughout the year. Thank you very much. The club

needs as many volunteers as possible because there is always something that can be done to improve our wonderful club. I pledge to do my best this coming year to make our club as fun, informative and inviting as possible. Please invite a friend or family member to one of our upcoming meetings. As I've said before, the more members, visitors, participants, the more fun our UNS club is. Speaking of fun, I hope to see each one of you at our December Christmas dinner. We have great place to meet, a very nice dinner planned and a lot of prizes to hand out. This is



one of the really neat UNS traditions we have and it couldn't happen at a better time of year...in my opinion.

Once again, to all of you who contributed your time, energy, expertise and patience to our UNS club during 2009, I ask that you please accept my deepest and most heartfelt thanks. Happy coin collecting,

Tom

December Meeting Details.

Meetings - Second Tuesday of each month (Dec. 8th)

Time - 6:30 P.M.

Location - Columbus Community Center; 2531 South 400 East, SLC

Greetings - Tom Jensen

Mini Exhibit - None

News & Views - None

Coin Quiz - None

Refreshments- Christmas Dinner

1933 Double Eagle



Opinion Question.

As you already know there are 10 seized 1933 Double Eagles presently residing at Ft. Knox.

Recently NGC was allowed into the facility and slabbed all of them in NGC 'Museum Holders.'

The question is....

Do you believe that they are government property or that the possibility exists that they will someday be available to collectors?

Please respond with your opinions and they will be published in the next UNS Newsletter.

<u>Douglas.nyholm@</u> comcast.net

Interesting Coin of the Month

1927 'Specimen' Buffalo Nickel





This is a coin that shouldn't exist, but does. It came to light about 20 years ago when three specimens were discovered together and subsequently certified by NGC as 'Specimens.' Proofs or special strikings during this era were relegated to certain commemoratives such as the sandblast proof Hawaiian half but for regular circulating coinage no proofs or special strikes were accomplished since 1916 (or 1917 as some will argue) so why do these coins exist? They are definitely something special as all those who have examined them are in complete agreement. They are fully struck with impeccable surfaces. There are also multiple stories as to exactly how they came into existence. One story has the mint experimenting with chrome plated dies which brings questions still as to why only these three coins are known. In any event, they represent a special event resulting in their creation and are beautiful results regardless of whatever process created them.

UNS Program for December's Meeting

The UNS Christmas Dinner will be the program. See the announcement on page 8 for details. There will be many great prizes, good food, and some great coin stories to be told.

See you there.



Prizes &Buy of the Month

This month's buy is:

 There is no buy of the month for December due to the 'Holiday Dinner"

Prizes of the Month -

 As always, there will be a multitude of prizes at our Christmas dinner!

November Club Election Results

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Medals
Curator
Librarian
Boarse Chair
Newsletter

Tom Jensen
Doug Nyholm
Sharee Norman
Ralph Mueller
Don Swain
Bruce Griggs
Dennis Ruffell
Bob Campbell
Doug Nyholm

BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Larsen
Robert Whitehead
Eldon Farnsworth
Ron Swain
Michael Norman
David Larsen
Robie Cagle



List Price \$40
Readily available at numismatic book stores or at Amazon.com

Book Review

Collecting Confederate currency is usually a specialty for those individuals who have become familiar with their issues, but for those of us who have only a passing interest Confederate currency can be somewhat complicated. There are many issues which were issued by the Confederacy as well as hundreds of state issued obsoletes. This book addresses those issued by the Confederacy and makes understanding the issues simple. Anyone who has no interest other than possibly obtaining a single example, or two, will find this book invaluable.

In addition to listing each note there is a large section at the beginning of the book which is a great history lesson about these colorful notes.

There are 72 different issues of Confederate currency generally referred to as T-1 to T-72 which are sequentially listed. The issuing periods from 1861 to 1864 are defined by date as well. All notes are shown in full color on high quality glossy paper.

Varieties, counterfeits, and values from new to cancelled notes are given. Issued quantities for each note are also given.

This book will make you an instant expert on Confederate currency.

Coin Quiz & Trivia



1. Which of the following is a rarity if fully struck?

1880-S \$1

c. 1937-D 5c

1917 Type 1 25c

d. 1926-D 25c

Who devised a quantitative grading scale in 1949?

Ford

c. Taxay

Stack h.

d. Sheldon

The American Numismatic Association was founded under the guidance of:

Zerbe

c. Heath

Chapman b.

d. Nagy

Most Civil War tokens are dated:

1862 a.

c. 1864

b. 1863 d. 1865

PCGS graded their first coin in which year? 1984 a.

1986

c. 1988 d. 1990

Answers to last month's questions.

1)Gold Dollars 2) The Mintmark 3)Quarter Eagle4)1955 5) Maliki

Young Numismatist's News





Pictured above are new designs for coins to be issued in 2010. To the left is the reverse of the Lincoln Cent and to the right is the reverse of the 2010 Native American \$1 Coin.

The cent reverse features a union shield with a scroll draped across it bearing the inscription E PLURIBUS UNUM ("out of many, one"). The 13 vertical stripes of the shield represent the states joined in one compact union to support the federal government, represented by the horizontal bar above. The union shield, which dates back to the 1780s, was used widely during the Civil War. In addition, the shield device is featured on frescoes throughout the halls of the U.S. Capitol Building by Constantino Brumidi, artist of the Capitol during Lincoln's presidency.

The reverse design of the \$1 coin features an image of the Hiawatha Belt with 5 arrows bound together, along with the inscriptions UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, \$1, HAUDENOSAUNEE and GREAT LAW OF PEACE.

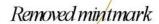


Counterfeit Corner

1922 "PLAIN" LINCOLN

Die Pair 1— Die crack from L in Pluribus thru O in ONE.

Die Pair 3— Lower left portion of the O in ONE is flattened.











Pick Up Point

Strong Reverse

Frequency Encountered Occasionally

Identification Difficulty
Easy

Value Moderate

STRONG REVERSE

There are three different die parings for this coin. All 1922 cents were minted in Denver, no coins were made in Philadelphia in 1922. Die pair's 1 and 3 can show traces of the D and even on high grade examples the lines in the wheat ears appear worn. Die pair 2 shows no traces of the mintmark and the reverse is strong. Counterfeits will have markings or show evidence of tampering where the D has been removed. On genuine coins the second 2 in the date is usually weaker than the first. ANACS only recognizes coins from die pair 2 as true 'no D' coins.

Feature Article - Coinage of the Carson City Mint

Nothing adds romance (yes, I said ROMANCE when talking about coins) to coin collecting more than those three little words – *CARSON CITY MINT*.

It stirs thoughts of the Wild West of yesteryear – The exploits of 'Hoss' and 'Little Joe' riding around the Ponderosa or getting in trouble in Virginia City. For everyone younger than me, that was a very popular TV show from the 1960s called "Bonanza."

Usually, when we think of coins from the Carson City branch of the United States Mint, we think of silver dollars. Silver dollars weren't really used anywhere outside of the western U.S. My dad told me about when he was in basic training during the Korean War. He was stationed at Fort Dix in New Jersey, and a lot of the guys from back east had never seen a silver dollar. Well, my dad took advantage of that information and had my grandmother send him silver dollars, which he sold for TWO dollars each. Not a bad profit at the time. It could have been a great deal a few years later for the buyers if there were any better date dollars in those packages.

I decided to make myself a chart that would make it easier to see at a glance exactly what denominations and what years the Carson City Mint struck coins. It was fun, and I thought I would share what I found:

Years of operation: 1870 to 1893; no coins were struck from 1886 to 1888 when mint was operating as an assay office.

Total number of coins struck: 56,659,595

The face value of all coins struck: \$49,276,815.80 Total number of silver coins struck: 54,786,072

The face value of all silver coins struck: \$25,448,390.80

Total number of gold coins struck: 1,873,523

The face value of all gold coins struck: \$23,828,425.00

Mintages by denomination

Dimes: 20,912,588 20¢: 143,290 Quarters: 10,330,542 Halves: 5,307,627

Dollars (Silver): Seated – 18,584; Morgan – 13,862,041; Trade – 4,211,400

Half Eagles: 709,617 Eagles: 299,778

Double Eagles: 864,128

- A complete set contains 111 coins: 54 silver (including 1875 above/below bow variety dimes); 57 gold.
- The only denomination struck every year (except when the mint was closed) was silver dollars.
- After 1878 the only silver coins struck were Morgan silver dollars.
- Lowest minted denomination in silver: 20¢ (143,290); in gold: \$10 (299,778)
- Highest minted denomination in silver: 10¢ (20,912,588); highest minted denomination: \$20 (864,128)
- Lowest mintage: 1871 Seated Dollar (1,376); Highest mintage: 1876 10¢ (8,270,000).
- Rarest coin: 1873 No Arrows 10¢. Although 7,416 were minted, only one specimen is known.
- Other rarities: 1874 Arrows 10¢ 6 to 8 known; 1876 20¢ 16 to 18 known.

Conclusions and Surprises

- The face value amounts of silver and gold coins struck were almost equal.
- Although famous for its silver coin rarities, it is its gold output that is rare only 3% of the coins struck at the Carson City Mint were gold!
- By far the most available coins and easiest set to assemble are Morgan dollars.
- Rarity and price don't always go together. Some coins that are relatively easy to find at coin shows or in dealer's cases (yes, Morgan Dollars) are more expensive than coins seldom seen. If you do your homework and are patient you can get more bang for your buck.







Identify This Coin

Can you identify the coin pictured above? This one should be fairly easy. Again, you should be able to identify both the denomination and date from this picture.

No hints this month!

Good Luck!

[Last month's coin was an 1806 half dollar. Key was no stem through claw.]

Advertisements

MONARCH COINS

211 E. 3900 S. Salt Lake City, UT 801-262-5874

Hours: Tue-Fri 9:30 to 5:00 & Saturday 10:00 to 2:00

Come see our expanded showroom.

Staci Larsen, Bob Ottley, Sarah Rich, and Jesse VanDeMere

Muller/Robertson Coins & Currency

We are looking to buy collections or individual pieces of world/US coins and currency

Call us at 801-581-0991

Eureka Coin Company

Contact George Wilson at:

801-928-1192 or email at Eurekacoins@gmail.com

ALL ABOUT COINS

1123 E. 2100 S. Salt Lake City, UT 801-467-8636

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed Monday's

Contact Bob Campbell at 801-467-8636

UNS Member since 1973

PL Treasures

Contact LaVon Ottley at 801-597-6488 or Bob Ottley at 801-943-3913

Fine Jewelry, 14kt gold, diamonds & colored stones, sterling silver. Custom made settings, repairs and remounts. Also, rare coins, tokens, medals and bullion products available. We buy and sell US and World coins.

Advertisements

Abbott & Barton Rare Coins

4698 South Holladay Boulevard Holladay, UT 84117 801-278-8500

Come in and see our new store! All Welcome!

Michael Abbott & Andrew Barton - Proprietors

Andrewbarton32@yahoo.com

Hours: Tue-Fri 10:00 to 6:00 / Saturday 10:00 to 5:00 / Closed Sunday & Monday

We buy Sell or Trade Gold, Silver and Platinum. Check us out, you will be pleased you did.



1774 N. University Parkway Provo, UT 84604 801-377-1574 or 888-864-1574

Bryan Rust or Sherilee Kazamini

Rusycoinz1@hotmail.com

If you are looking to sell you collection please give us a call! We also trade and sell coins. We love to help our customers with coins they need, so if you have a want list we would be happy to help you out. We've been in the coin business for 45 years.

Plan to attend the UNS Christmas Dinner!

Date - Tuesday December 8th

Time – Arrive at 6:30 PM – Dinner served at 7:00 PM

Cost - Adults \$17; Children (8 and under) \$8.50

<u>Location</u> - Columbus Community Center; 2531 South 400 East, SLC Dinner will be served in the larger room down the hall.

<u>Menu</u> – 'Catering by Bryce' *"Artichoke Chicken & Roast Pork Loin with Raspberry Chipotle."*

All meals must be pre-ordered by Dec. 3rd. You can pay Ralph Muller at our November meeting or at the door Dec 8th. If you are not at our November meeting and plan to attend please notify Ralph via phone or email as noted below:

801-581-0991

mullerralph@gmail.com



Help Grow Our Membership!

If you know of someone who would like to receive a sample UNS Newsletter let us know.

If you wish to attend the UNS Christmas dinner you must contact Ralph Muller by December 3rd.

Page	9
------	---

Utah Numismatic Society

P.O. Box 65064 Salt Lake City, UT 84165

E-mail

robiewan@netzero. net

or

douglas.nyholm@comcast.net

Membership Form

1-1	membership in the Utah Numismatic Society / UNS	
Name(s) of app	plicant(s)	
Address:		
Phone Number	r;E-mail Address:	
How would you	like to receive the newsletter? [] Email / Preferred[] Postal Ma	ail
Sponsor:		
When & Where Columbus Con 2531 South 400 Salt Lake City, I	nmunity Center Second Tuesday of each month at 7:0 East)0 PIV
Annual Dues:		
[] Family \$25	[] Adult (18 and older) \$15 [] Junior \$5	
Individual Lifeti	me Memberships are \$250.00. There is no family Lifetime Member	ship

UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 65054 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84165

Comments, Suggestions, and articles should be submitted to:

robiewan@netzero.net or douglas.nyholm@comcast .net

MEMBER NAME/ADDR